

In the specification:

On page 1, replace paragraph on lines 19-35 with the following paragraph.

C

The invention features a method for diagnosing a malignant neoplasm in a mammal by contacting a bodily fluid from the mammal with an antibody which binds to an human aspartyl (asparaginy) beta-hydroxylase (HAAH) polypeptide under conditions sufficient to form an antigen-antibody complex and detecting the antigen-antibody complex (for the purposes of this specification, HAAH polypeptide refers to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and HAAH cDNA refers to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3). Malignant neoplasms detected in this manner include those derived from endodermal tissue, e.g., colon cancer, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, liver cancer, and cancer of the bile ducts. Neoplasms of the central nervous system (CNS) such as primary malignant CNS neoplasms of both neuronal and glial cell origin and metastatic CNS neoplasms are also detected. Patient derived tissue samples, e.g., biopsies of solid tumors, as well as bodily fluids such as a CNS-derived bodily fluid, blood, serum, urine, saliva, sputum, lung effusion, and ascites fluid, are contacted with an HAAH-specific antibody.

On page 6, replace paragraph on lines 5-16 with the following amended paragraph.

C²

For example, a compound which inhibits HAAH hydroxylation is a polypeptide that binds a HAAH ligand but does not transduce an intracellular signal or an polypeptide which contains a mutation in the catalytic site of HAAH. Such a polypeptide contains an amino acid sequence that is at least 50% identical to a naturally-occurring HAAH amino acid sequence or a

C² fragment thereof and which has the ability to inhibit HAAH hydroxylation of substrates containing an EGF-like repeat sequence. More preferably, the polypeptide contains an amino acid sequence that is at least 75%, more preferably at least 85%, more preferably at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

On page 17, after line 22, insert the following new paragraph.

Deposit of Biological Materials

C³ Under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purpose of Patent Procedure, hybridoma FB501 (which produces monoclonal antibody FB50; designated ATCC accession no. PTA 3386), hybridoma HA386A (which produces monoclonal antibody 86A; designated ATCC accession no. 3385), hybridoma HA15C7A (which produces monoclonal antibody 5C7; designated ATCC accession no. 3383), and hybridoma HA219B (which produces monoclonal antibody 19B; designated ATCC accession no. 3384) were deposited on May 17, 2001, with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) of 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Va. 20110-2209 USA..

Applicants' assignee represents that the ATCC is a depository affording permanence of the deposit and ready accessibility thereto by the public if a patent is granted. All restrictions on the availability to the public of the material so deposited will be irrevocably removed upon the granting of a patent. The material will be available during the pendency of the patent application to one determined by the Commissioner to be entitled thereto under 37 CFR 1.14 and 35 U.S.C. 122. The deposited material will be maintained with all the care necessary to keep it viable and

uncontaminated for a period of at least five years after the most recent request for the furnishing of a sample of the deposited plasmid, and in any case, for a period of at least thirty (30) years after the date of deposit or for the enforceable life of the patent, whichever period is longer.

Applicant's assignee acknowledges its duty to replace the deposit should the depository be unable to furnish a sample when requested due to the condition of the deposit.

On page 47, lines 1-12, replace Table 4 with the following amended Table.

Table 4: Overexpression of enzymatically active HAAH
indicates malignancy

Cdna	# of foci \pm S.D. ^b	NIH 3T3 clone	# of colonies ^c
pcDNA3 (mock)	6.0 ± 3.3	pcDNA (mock)	0.4 ± 0.5
murine [H]AAH	14.0 ± 2.9	clone 18 ^d	6.2 ± 2.9
mutant murine [H]AAH ^a	1.6 ± 1.0	clone 16 ^e	4.7 ± 6.5
[human] HAAH	32.0 ± 5.4		
v-scr	98.0 ± 7.1		

a. enzymatically inactive [H]AAH

b. $P < 0.01$ compared to mock and mutant murine [H]AAH

c. $P < 0.001$ compared to mock

d. Clone 18 is a stable cloned NIH 3T3 cell line that overexpression human HAAH by approximately two fold.

e. Clone 16 is a stable cloned NIH 3T3 cell line that overexpresses human HAAH by about 50%.